

Message Text

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P R 052325Z NOV 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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VIENNA FOR RPO, LONDON FOR RRU

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, RO, UR, PL (SPIELBERG, STEVEN)

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AMSPEC GRANT FOR YOUNG FILM DIRECTOR

REFS: A) BUCHAREST 6395 (NOTAL), B) WARSAW 3973,
C) BUCHAREST 3240, D) SOFIA 1264 (NOTAL), E) BUCHAREST 4127

1. DESPITE BEST EFFORTS OF DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY, WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PIN DOWN DIRECTOR FOR "NEW DIRECTORS FILM FESTIVAL." AS EMBASSY AWARE, WE HAD HIGH HOPES THAT STEVEN SPIELBERG WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCEPT AMSPEC GRANT TO VISIT BUCHAREST AND POSSIBLY MOSCOW OR WARSAW. UNFORTUNATELY, AT LAST MINUTE, SPIELBERG INFORMED US THAT, REGRETFULLY, HE MUST REMAIN IN U.S. TO COMPLETE WORK ON HIS NEW FILM.

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2. IN ADDITION TO SPIELBERG, WE HAVE SPENT CONSIDERABLE

TIME AND ENERGY CONTACTING ALL THE DIRECTORS LISTED
REFTEL C (FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA, WOODY ALLEN, GEORGE LUCAS,
PETER BOGDANOVICH) IN ADDITION TO MARTIN SCORSESE (SUGGEST-
ED BY SPIELBERG) AND BRYAN DEPALMA (ALSO SUGGESTED BY
SPIELBERG; DIRECTOR OF "WEDDING PARTY," "SISTERS," AND
"CARRIE.") ALL OF THESE DIRECTORS ARE EITHER CURRENTLY
WORKING ON NEW FILMS OR WORKING ON "POST-PRODUCTION AND
PUBLICITY," ALTHOUGH SOME HELD OUT HOPE FOR VARYING PERIODS
OF TIME THAT THEY MIGHT BE AVAILABLE. ALSO, WE HAD GORDON
PARKS LINED UP SOME MONTHS AGO, BUT EMBASSY PREFERRED THAT
WE SEEK MORE PRESTIGIOUS NAMES LISTED ABOVE. AT THIS LATE
DATE, IF EMBASSY STILL INTERESTED, WE WILL RECHECK ON PARKS.
ADVISE.

4. FYI: GEORGE LUCAS SAID THAT THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY
THAT HE MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR TRAVEL NEXT MAY AND WOULD BE
INTERESTED IN AN AMSPEC GRANT AT THAT TIME. BRYAN
DEPALMA FREQUENTLY TRAVELS TO EUROPE AND STATED THAT IF HE
HAD THE TIME, HE WOULD CHECK WITH RRU LONDON AND RPO VIENNA
RE ONE-TWO DAY VOLSPKR PROGRAM IN BUCHAREST. CU/EE
SUPPLIED HIM WITH THE APPROPRIATE NAMES, ADDRESSES AND
TELEPHONE NUMBERS. KISSINGER

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